

1 Title 5. EDUCATION

2 Division 1. State Department of Education

3 Chapter 2. Pupils

4 Subchapter 3. Health and Safety of Pupils

5 ARTICLE 4. VISION SCREENING TESTING

6
7 Amend Sections 590 – 596 to read:

8 **§590. Duly Authorized Agency ~~Defined.~~**

9 “A ~~duly authorized agency,~~” as used in Pursuant to Education Code Section 49452,
10 means a county superintendent of schools may contract with an agency duly authorized to
11 provide vision tests, which includes a city or county health department, a local health
12 district, or the State Department of Public Health Services.

13 NOTE: Authority cited for ~~Article 4: Section 33031 and 49452,~~ Education Code. Issuing
14 agency: Superintendent of Public Instruction. Reference: Section 49452, Education Code.

15
16 **§591. Employees Authorized to Give Tests.**

17 (a) An employee of the ~~governing board~~ a school district or of the ~~a~~ county
18 superintendent of schools ~~who may be required or permitted~~ authorized to give vision tests
19 pursuant to Education Code Section 49452 ~~to pupils enrolled in the district and may be~~
20 designated a “duly qualified supervisor of health” within the meaning of that section if the
21 employee is ~~one of the following:~~

- 22 (a) ~~A physician, ophthalmologist, optometrist, or nurse who holds both:~~
23 (1) ~~A certificate of registration from the appropriate California board or agency.~~
24 (2) ~~A health and development credential, or a standard designated service credential~~
25 ~~with a specialization in health.~~

26 (1) A physician and surgeon or osteopath employed pursuant to Education Code
27 Section 44873.

28 (2) A school nurse employed pursuant to Education Code Section 44877.

29 (3) An optometrist employed pursuant to Education Code Section 44878.

30 ~~Such an employee is a “qualified supervisor of health” as used in this article and in~~
31 ~~Education Code Section 49452.~~

1 (b) Any other certificated employee of the school district or of the county superintendent
2 of schools ~~who holds a teaching credential issued by the State Board and who has filed~~
3 ~~with the employing school district or county superintendent of schools, as the case may be,~~
4 may be authorized to give vision tests pursuant to Education Code Section 49452 if the
5 employee has one of the following documents:

6 (1) A statement from a qualified supervisor of health that the employee has satisfactorily
7 completed an acceptable course of in-service training in techniques and procedures in
8 vision ~~screening~~ testing of at least six clock hours given by the qualified supervisor of
9 health making the statement and that the employee is qualified to administer vision tests to
10 pupils.

11 (2) A transcript from an accredited college or university evidencing that the employee
12 has successfully completed an acceptable course in vision ~~screening~~ testing of at least one
13 semester unit.

14 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 33031, Education Code. Reference: Sections 44873,
15 44877, 44878, and 49452, Education Code.

16
17 **§592. Acceptable Courses in Vision Screening Testing.**

18 An acceptable course in vision ~~screening~~ testing is one that provides the following:

- 19 (a) Basic knowledge of the structure, normal development, and function of the eye and
20 common anomalies of vision and factors influencing visual performance.
- 21 (b) Basic knowledge of signs and symptoms suggesting eye difficulty.
- 22 (c) Techniques and procedures in administering ~~Snellen~~ optotype and color vision tests.
23 Such techniques and procedures shall include training in the following:
- 24 (1) Establishing tests rapport with pupils.
- 25 (2) Seating of pupil and placing of equipment.
- 26 (3) Providing adequate lighting conditions for the testing situation.
- 27 (4) Recording test results.
- 28 (5) Referring pupils in need of follow-up.
- 29 (d) Practice in administering ~~Snellen~~ optotype and color vision tests under the
30 supervision of a duly qualified supervisor of health.

31 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 33031, Education Code. Reference: Section 49452,
32 Education Code.

1 **§593. Responsibility as to Eligibility.**

2 Each school district and county superintendent of schools shall determine and be
3 responsible for the eligibility of personnel employed or permitted by the district or county
4 superintendent of schools to administer ~~eye screening~~ vision tests or to conduct inservice
5 training programs in techniques and procedures in administering such tests.

6 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 33031, Education Code. Reference: Section 49452.
7

8 **§594. Examination Test of Visual Acuity.**

9 (a) ~~The following definitions shall apply to terms used in~~ test of visual acuity
10 administered pursuant to Education Code Sections 49452 and 49455. ~~The examination of~~
11 ~~visual acuity~~ shall mean a test for visual acuity at the far point. This shall be conducted by
12 means of the ~~Snellen Test~~ an optotype test. ~~Conduct of the test and the testing~~
13 ~~environment shall conform to procedures and settings described in the most recent edition~~
14 ~~of "A Guide for Vision Testing in California Public Schools."~~ Test failure for the initial ~~vision~~
15 visual acuity test shall be defined as follows:

16 (a~~1~~) For children under six years of age: ~~Vision~~ Visual acuity of 20/50 or worse. The
17 designation 20/50 or worse indicates the inability to identify accurately the majority of
18 letters or symbols on the ~~40~~ 20-foot line of the test chart at a distance of ~~20~~ 10 feet.

19 (b~~2~~) For children six years of age or older: Visual acuity of 20/40 or worse. This means
20 the inability to identify the majority of letters or symbols on ~~30~~ 15-foot line of the chart at a
21 distance of 10 feet.

22 (c~~3~~) For all children: A difference of visual acuity between the two eyes of two lines or
23 more on the ~~Snellen Chart~~ optotype chart. ~~This means, for example, visual acuity of 20/20~~
24 ~~in one eye and 20/40 in the other or 20/30 in one eye and 20/50 in the other.~~

25 (b) For pupils who, because of age or special needs are not able to be tested with an
26 optotype test, other types of vision testing, such as a functional vision test, may be utilized,
27 using procedures and criteria of failure as described by the manufacturer.

28 (b~~c~~) If a pupil fails a vision test that is conducted by an employee authorized to give
29 vision tests pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 591, Following failure of the initial vision
30 acuity screening test, a reevaluation shall be accomplished conducted prior to referral for
31 definitive professional evaluation a report being made to the pupil's parent or guardian.

32 This reevaluation shall be ~~done by persons~~ conducted by an employee authorized to give

1 vision tests pursuant to subdivision as per Section 591(a) of this Article Section 591.

2 (d) If a pupil fails a vision test conducted by an employee authorized to give vision tests
3 pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 591, a report shall be made to the pupil's parent or
4 guardian as required by Education Code Section 49456.

5 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 33031, Education Code. Reference: Sections 3308.5,
6 49452, 49455, and 49456, Education Code.

7
8 **§595. Examination Appraisal of Color Vision.**

9 The ~~examination appraisal~~ of color vision as used in male pupils pursuant to Education
10 Code Sections 49452 and 49455 shall mean a test employing pseudoisochromatic plates.
11 Procedures and criteria of failure as described by the manufacturer shall be used.

12 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 33031, Education Code. Reference: Sections 49452 and
13 49455, Education Code.

14
15 **§596. Gross External Observation of the Children's Eyes, Visual Performance and**
16 **Perception.**

17 Gross external observation of the children's eyes, visual performance and perception,
18 ~~as used in~~ pursuant to Education Code Sections 49452 and 49455, shall mean continuous
19 observation by teachers of the appearance, behavior and complaints of pupils that might
20 indicate vision problems. Also, periodic investigation where pupils' school performance
21 begins to give evidence that existence of the problem might be caused by a visual difficulty.
22 Such an evaluation shall be done in consultation with the school nurse.

23 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 33031, Education Code. Reference: Sections 49452 and
24 49455, Education Code.